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**BALTIMORE MAN SENTENCED TO OVER 15 YEARS IN PRISON
FOR ILLEGAL GUN POSSESSION**

BALTIMORE, Maryland - Jerome Henderson, age 42, of Baltimore was sentenced today to 184 months in prison followed by 5 years of supervised release after his conviction as a felon in possession of a weapon, announced United States Attorney for the District of Maryland Rod J. Rosenstein. At the sentencing hearing U.S. District Judge Marvin J. Garbis ruled that Henderson was an armed career criminal based on Henderson's three previous convictions for a violent felony or serious drug offense.

Evidence admitted at trial established that on November 3, 2002 Baltimore City police officers tried to stop Henderson because he matched a victim's description of a man who had just attempted to rob him with a gun. As the officers attempted to apprehend Henderson, he fled and threw his loaded Beretta semi-automatic pistol onto the grassy median of Eutaw Street in Baltimore. After a four day jury trial, Henderson was convicted on June 23, 2004 of illegal gun possession.

United States Attorney Rod J. Rosenstein thanked the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives and the Baltimore City Police Department for their investigative work in this case. Mr. Rosenstein also praised Assistant United States Attorneys Harry M. Gruber and Michael Leotta for prosecuting the case.